

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01
NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01
OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 NRC-05 DLOS-06 SAL-01
/139 W

-----091107Z 107870 /14

P R 090742Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5068

INFO USMISSION USUN

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PASS TO ACDA/IR AND STATE/IO FROM MEYERS

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PARM, US

SUBJ: PREPARATORY COMMITTEE: SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY REVIEW
CONFERENCE

REF: GENEVA 0871

1. SUMMARY. PRIOR TO SECOND DAY OF PREPCOM, GROUP OF
WESTERN EUROPEAN PARTICIPANTS, PLUS JAPAN, AUSTRALIA,
NEW ZEALAND, US MET AT CANADIAN MISSION TO REVIEW
QUESTIONS OF CONFERENCE STRUCTURING, PROCEDURES AND
FINANCING. AT OPENING OF PREPCOM SESSION CANADIANS,
TOGETHER WITH EIGHT OTHER WESTERN AND NEUTRAL CO-SPONSORS,
CIRCULATED FORMAL PROPOSAL FOR COST-SHARING BASED ON UN
ASSESSMENTS, PRORATED. NPT RULE 28 ON DECISION-MAKING
WAS ADOPTED WITHOUT MODIFICATION FOR SEABED REVIEW.
CHINESE WAS DELETED AS CONFERENCE LANGUAGE. MOST OTHER
MINOR PROCEDURAL ISSUES WERE RESOLVED. MAIN ISSUES WHICH
REMAIN INCLUDE STRUCTURE OF CONFERENCE AND FINANCING.
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END SUMMARY.

2. CANADIAN REP (JAY) HOSTED MEETING OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN, ANZUS AND JAPANESE PARTICIPANTS IN PREPCOM
PRIOR TO OPENING OF SECOND DAY OF COMMITTEE'S WORK.
NPT RULE 28 ON DECISION-MAKING WAS DISCUSSED EXTENSIVELY
WITH STRONG MAJORITY SUPPORTING US POSITION THAT COM-

MITTEE SHOULDN'T FIDDLE WITH FIN-TUNED TEXT. FRG, ITALY, AND NETHERLANDS, WHO HAD EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN REDUCING WAITING PERIOD BEFORE RESORTING TO VOTE FROM 48 TO 24 HOURS, AGREED NOT TO PRESS FOR MODIFICATION.

3. USREP OUTLINED VIEWS ON SIMPLIFIED STRUCTURE OF SEABED REVIEW CONFERENCE WITH LESS ELABORATE SET OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES THAN NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE. MOST REPS SUPPORTED CONCEPT OF A SIMPLIFIED SEABED REVIEW CONFERENCE, AS LONG AS REGIONAL INTEREST AND RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUALS ARE ADEQUATELY PROVIDED FOR. IT WAS AGREED THAT ARRANGMENTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS TO BE CIRCULATED WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE CONFERENCE, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME NOT STIMULATING POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS.

4. ON FINANCING ISSUES CANADIAN REP ASKED FOR US VIEWS. USREP INDICATED SYMPATHY FOR CANADIAN CONCERNS, BUT SAID US SIMILARLY VIEWS THIS ISSUE AS INVOLVING PROBLEMS OF PRINCIPLES. SINCE PARTIES TO SEABED TREATY ARE SOVEREIGN STATES, MOST OF WHOM ARE DEVELOPED, USREP NOTED ONE POSSIBLE PRINCIPLE WAS TO APPLY CONCEPT OF SHARING THE COST EQUALLY. ANOTHER APPLICABLE PRINCIPLE WAS THAT OF UN ASSESSMENT SCALE, WITH US MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION 25 PERCENT. ALL OTHER PARTICIPANTS, WITH VARYING DEGREES OF EMPHASIS, SAID SUCH AN APPROACH WAS UNREALISTIC, ALTHOUGH THE EQUAL COST-SHARING PRINCIPLE HAS A CERTAIN EGALITARIAN APPEAL. ITALIAN REP OBSERVED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IT COULD BE ARGUED NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES HAD A MAJOR INTEREST IN THIS TREATY AND SHOULD PAY MORE AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE; THAT IF THE US SHARE WERE ONLY 25 PERCENT, WITH OTHERS FORCED TO ADD THE EXCESS TO THEIR SHARE, THEN PRORATED CONTRIBUTION FOR EACH ITALIAN CITIZEN WOULD BE GREATER THAN THAT FOR EACH AMERICAN. FRG REP, SUPPORTED BY JAPAN, SAID 25 PERCENT LIMIT APPLIED ONLY ON A UNIVERSAL SCALE AND IF THERE ARE MISSING STATES, THEN EVERYONE'S SHARE GOES UP. OTHER DELS, EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER US POSITION, NOTED DESIRABILITY OF LOGICAL, EQUITABLE, COMMON POSITION WHICH MIGHT BE USED IN THE FUTURE TO AVOID CONTENTIOUS HAGGLING. USREP SAID HE WOULD REPORT OTHERS' REACTIONS TO WASHINGTON.

5. AT COMMENCEMENT OF PREPCOM, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING, CANADIAN DEL PRESENTED FORMALLY COST-SHARING PROPOSAL ALONG LINES REPORTED IN GENEVA 865, BASED ON UN ASSESSMENTS, PRORATED. CO-SPONSORS INCLUDED AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, DENMARK, FRG, FINLAND, ITALY,

SWEDEN, AND NEW ZEALAND.

6. IN RESPONSE TO A PROPOSAL BY THE CANADIAN REP,
NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE RULE 28 ON DECISION-MAKING
WAS ADOPTED WITHOUT CHANGE FOR THE SEABED REVIEW
CONFERENCE. IT WAS AGREED BY CONSENSUS TO DELETE
CHINESE AS A CONFERENCE LANGUAGE FOR ECONOMY REASONS.
WHILE IRAQI REP SUGGESTED ARABIC BE ADDED, OTHERS
OBJECTED AT COST AND ISSUE WAS DEFERRED. OTHER MINOR
PROCEDURAL ISSUES WERE DISPOSED OF DURING MORNING IN
BUSINESS-LIKE MANNER. ONLY REMAINING MAJOR ISSUES
TO BE RESOLVED ARE FINANCING AND DETAILS OF CONFERENCE
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

7. IN AFTERNOON SESSION, WHILE PROGRESS WAS MADE TOWARD
AGREEMENT THERE WAS NOT NEED FOR MAIN COMMITTEES OTHER
THAN PLENARY, ROMANIANS AGAIN INTERPOSED OBJECTIONS
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THAT STRUCTURE DEPENDED ON KNOWING WHO WOULD COME.
FRG THEN, IN CONTEXT DISCUSSING DRAFTING COMMITTEE,
INFORMALLY SUGGESTED SPECIFIC REGIONAL BREAKDOWN WHICH,
WITH THREE SIGNATORIES AUTOMATICALLY ON COMMITTEE,
WOULD PROVIDE VICE-PRESIDENCIES TO VARIOUS REGIONAL
GROUPS ON SUBSTANTIALLY LESSER NUMBER THAN NPT REVIEW
CONFERENCE. AT END OF SESSION, SECRETARIAT CIRCULATED
DRAFT AGENDA WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY SAME AS ILLUSTRATIVE
DRAFT CONTAINED IN US POSITION PAPER, EARLIER
INFORMALLY PROVIDED TO PREPCOM BUREAU. CATTO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, SEABED, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: PREPARATORY COMMITTEE: SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE
TAGS: PARM, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9be418c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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